

### **AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

The following is a complete, marked up listing of revised claims with a status identifier in parentheses, underlined text indicating insertions, and strikethrough and/or double-bracketed text indicating deletions.

#### **LISTING OF THE CLAIMS**

1. (Currently Amended) A method for controlling and monitoring transfers of jobs from clients connected in a network to shared resources connected in the network, the method comprising:

- receiving, at a server, from a client connected in the network, a request to be allowed to send a job to a selected shared resource connected in the network;

- assigning an identity to the job;

- checking continuously, by the server, whether the shared resource is accessible and has capacity for receiving the job at present;

- sending a go-ahead to the client that the client can send the job directly to the selected shared resource, the go-ahead including the identity assigned to the job so that the network may identify the job, the sending being executed if the checking continuously determines that the selected shared resource is accessible and has capacity to receive the job at present;

- placing the request in a queue for the selected shared resource, if the checking continuously determines that the selected shared resource is

accessible but at present lacks capacity for receiving the job, the queue being updated continuously;

- sending the go-ahead to the client that the client can send the job directly to the selected shared resource, if the request is in a first position in the queue and the checking continuously determines that the selected shared resource has capacity to receive the job at present;

- notifying, by the server, the client not to send the job, if the checking continuously determines that the selected shared resource is not accessible;

- repetitively receiving, from the client, updated status information regarding the completion of the job by the shared resource, the repetitively receiving occurring after the sending the go-ahead, absence of the repetitively receiving indicating an operation error of the client or a communication error between the client and the server;

- receiving, from the client, after the repetitively receiving, a confirmation indicating that the job has been completed successfully by the shared resource or that the job has not been completed successfully by the shared resource; and

- removing the request from the queue upon receipt of the confirmation.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

- receiving a confirmation that the identity has been received by the client.

4. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

- receiving a confirmation that the go-ahead has been received by the client.

5. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 4, wherein the confirmation that the go-ahead has been received also indicates that the job has been or will be sent to the shared resource directly.

6. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the shared resource is a printer and the job is a print job.

7. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the shared resource is a transmitter device, a telefax apparatus, a displaying unit, a projector, a device for storing data, a CD recorder, or a DVD recorder, and wherein the job is a job to send, display, or store data.

8. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

- sending information regarding a status of the shared resource to the client.

9. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

- storing a version of client software for the client, the software relating to communication with the selected shared resource;
- receiving, from the client, information of a version of the client software the client is using for communication with the selected shared resource;
- comparing the version of the stored client software and the version of the client software in use; and
- transferring a copy of the stored client software to the client or installing a copy of the stored client software on the client, executing the transferring or the installing if the comparing determines that the version of the stored client software is newer than the version of the client software in use.

10. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 9, wherein the receiving information of the version of the client software the client is using is executed with the receiving the request to be allowed to send the job to the selected shared resource.

11. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the request to be allowed to send the job to the selected shared resource includes a user domain and a user identity for the client, the method further comprising:

- checking whether the client has authorization to send the job to the selected shared resource; and

- sending an error code to the client, if the client does not have authorization to send the job to the selected shared resource.

12. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 11, further comprising:

- checking a user priority of the client, if the client has authorization to send the job to the selected shared resource; and
- placing the request in the queue depending on the user priority of the client.

13. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 3, further comprising:

- receiving, from the client, information of a size of the job.

14. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 13, wherein the receiving information of the size of the the job is executed with the receiving the confirmation that the identity has been received.

15. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

- continuously checking a status of shared resources in the network.

16. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

- continuously copying information regarding status of shared resources in the network, information regarding queues, information regarding clients,

and information regarding jobs to a second server configured to control and monitor transfers of jobs.

17. (Currently Amended) A non-transitory computer-readable medium storing code portions that cause a server to execute:

- receiving, from a client connected in the network, a request to be allowed to send a job to a selected shared resource connected in the network;

- assigning an identity to the job;

- checking continuously whether the shared resource is accessible and has capacity for receiving the job at present;

- sending a go-ahead to the client that the client can send the job directly to the selected shared resource, the go-ahead including the identity assigned to the job so that the network including the client may identify the job, the sending being executed if the checking continuously determines that the selected shared resource is accessible and has capacity to receive the job at present;

- placing the request in a queue for the selected shared resource, if the checking continuously determines that the selected shared resource is accessible but at present lacks capacity for receiving the job, the queue being updated continuously;

- sending the go-ahead to the client that the client can send the job directly to the selected shared resource, if the request is in first position in the

queue and the checking continuously determines that the selected shared resource has capacity to receive the job at present;

- notifying the client not to send the job, if the checking continuously determines that the selected shared resource is not accessible;

- receiving, from the client, a confirmation indicating that the job has been completed successfully by the shared resource or that the job has not been completed successfully by the shared resource; and

- removing the request from the queue upon receipt of the confirmation.

18. (Currently Amended) The non-transitory computer-readable medium of claim 17, wherein the code portions are configured to be downloaded onto the server.

19. (Currently Amended) A method of transferring a job from a client connected in a network to a shared resource connected in the network and selected by the client, comprising:

- sending, to a server configured to control and monitor transfers of jobs to shared resources connected in the network, a request to be allowed to send the job directly to the selected shared resource, the server being further configured to,

- assign an identity to the job and communicate the identity to the client,

- place the request in a queue for the selected shared resource,

update the queue continuously, and

transmit a go-ahead to the client to send the job to the selected shared resource, if the request is in a first position in the queue;

- preparing and storing the job;
- receiving the go-ahead from the server, the go-ahead including the identity assigned to the job;
- sending the job directly to the selected shared resource;
- repetitively sending, to the server, updated status information regarding the completion of the job by the shared resource, the repetitively sending occurring after the receiving the go-ahead, absence of the updated status information on the server indicating an operation error of the client, or a communication error between the client and the server;

- receiving, from the selected shared resource, after the repetitively sending, a confirmation indicating that the job has been completed successfully by the shared resource or that the job has not been completed successfully by the shared resource; and

- forwarding the confirmation to the server, the server being further configured to remove the request from the queue in response to the confirmation.

20. (Cancelled)

21. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 19, further comprising:



- sending a confirmation that the assigned identity has been received by the client.

22. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 19, further comprising:

- sending a confirmation, to the server, that the go-ahead has been received by the client.

23. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 22, wherein the confirmation that the go-ahead has been received includes a confirmation that the job has been or will be sent to the shared resource.

24. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 19, wherein the shared resource is a printer and the job is a print job.

25. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 19, wherein the shared resource is a transmitter device, a telefax apparatus, a displaying unit, a projector, a device for storing data, a CD recorder, or a DVD recorder, and wherein the job is a job to send, display, or store data.

26. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 19, further comprising:

- sending, to the server, information of a version of client software the client is using for communication with the selected shared resource; and

- receiving, from the server, a copy of client software stored by the server, if the client software stored by the server is a newer version than the client software the client is using.

27. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 26, wherein the sending information the version of the client software the client is using is executed with the sending the request to be allowed to send the job to the selected shared resource.

28. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 19, wherein the request to be allowed to send the job to the selected shared resource includes a user domain and a user identity for the client, the method further comprising:

- receiving an error code from the server, if the client does not have authorization to send the job to the selected shared resource.

29. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 21, further comprising:

- sending information of a size of the job to the server.

30. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 29, wherein the sending information of the size of the job is executed with the sending the confirmation that the assigned identity has been received.

31. (Cancelled)

32. (Currently Amended) A non-transitory computer-readable medium storing code portions that cause a client terminal to execute the method of claim 19.

33. (Currently Amended) A network comprising:  
at least one server including the non-transitory computer-readable medium of claim 17.

**\* \* \* END OF CLAIM LISTING \* \* \***